

ment of State and our ministers to Great Britain and France; the unpublished parts of which shall be given in as quick succession as we can procure them.

MESSENGERS. Joel Bennett and Tenny Bowcock, assignees of Richard Barbour, late a bankrupt, now deceased, Thomas Barbour father and heir of the said Richard Barbour King, Charles Croughton, John Thomas, and William Davidson, Executor of James Short, deceased.—Take notice that on the first Monday in January next, in the year 1811, between the hour of ten in the morning and sun set of the same, I shall proceed to take the deposition of Mr. Dabney Carr and others, at the tavern of Triplett T. Estes in Charlottesville, in the county of Albemarle, to be read as evidence in my suit depending in the Superior Court of Chancery for the Richmond District, in which I am plaintiff and you are the defendants. And on the second Monday in January next, 1811, I shall proceed to take the deposition of Mr. Abner Newman and others between the hour of eight in the morning and sun set of the same, at Mecklenburg Court-house, and before the door thereof, and for the above mentioned purpose. And on the fourth Monday in January next, 1811, and between the hour of 8 in the morning and sun set of the same, and at the dwelling house of Spotswood Garland in the county of Nelson, I shall proceed to take the said Garland and others depositions, and for the above purposes. And on the Saturday succeeding the fourth Monday in January 1811, at William Harwood's tavern, in the town of Fredericksburg, I shall take the deposition of Adam Darby and others. And on Saturday, the 19th day of January 1811, at Wren's tavern in the county of Fairfax, at a place commonly called and known by the name of Wren's Hill, I shall take the depositions of the hon. Jenkin Whitesides, Col. Waddy, and Pleasant Miller, members of Congress; all of which depositions are to be read as evidence in the above cause.

ROBERT H. ROSE.
November 27, 1810.

Bank of Virginia

THE Stockholders are hereby notified that the general annual meeting of the Bank of Virginia and the several departments will be held on Monday the 7th day of January next.
John Brockenbrough, Cash.
December 10, 1810.

C. Terrell & L. Atkinson,

WILL continue their exertions, the ensuing year, in the EDUCATION of youth, at the same eligible place adjoining Southgate's, which they at present occupy. Their course of Education will embrace the several branches of English, including Moral and Natural Philosophy, Logic, Belles-Lettres, Mathematics, &c. &c. the use of the Globes; together with the Greek, Latin, and French languages.
Price for tuition, during the term \$40 each, to be paid quarterly in advance.
They propose to have an examination of their students and pupils, on Thursday the 20th inst. to which, are respectfully invited those, whose children are with them, and others who feel interested in the subject.
December 11, 1810.

Five Dollars Reward.

STRAYED or Stolen from the subscriber, about the last of last month, or the first of this, a small BAY Mare, with a star in her forehead; no other mark recollected. Whoever will deliver the said mare to me, living nearly opposite Mr. Enders' Tobacco Manufactory, shall receive the above reward.
FRANCIS SHOVELLER.

Notice to Contractors.

WILL be let to the LOWEST BIDDER, at 12 o'clock on Thursday the 1th inst. on the premises the filling up and completing the BRIDGE of Rockets BRIDGE.
The Commissioners.
December 10, 1810.

Flooring Plank Wanted.

THE Subscriber wishes to contract for a large quantity of Flooring plank delivered near this City. None need apply but those who can furnish the very best quality.
Alexander Fulton.
December 10, 1810.

Virginia Argus.

RICHMOND,

THURSDAY, Dec. 11, 1810.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The Message of the President of the United States to Congress at the opening of the present session, whether considered as a literary composition, or as a state paper, is entitled to universal admiration. Viewing it under the first character, its style has a great deal of what portrait painters call expression; and, considered in relation to its author, it displays a moral beauty, the effect of a mind disciplined by virtue, and of a temper influenced by the complacency of a rational philosophy.

It may seem strange to men who have not well considered this subject, but it is certainly true, that no one can write in a style at once calm and lucid, logical and graceful, who is not essentially a good man, whose passions are not captives to his reason, and whose thoughts are not controlled by truth. It is impossible, even for a stranger, to read Mr. Madison's speech, and not to be impressed with an opinion very much in his favor. The paragraph which briefly, but justly portrays the advantages of a national university, is a fine instance of mature genius; the theme is noble, and, in the hands of an unskilful person would in all probability, have occasioned bombast; but the correct talent of Mr. Madison gives us all the necessary ideas, appropriately dressed with the precise force of expression requisite to set us to thinking further on the subject. The concluding paragraph glows with a charming spirit of devotion to the sacred cause of our country, and serve admirably to wind up the variety of topics embraced in the message, which are so well arranged that they form a narrative too clear to require analysis.

Regarding the message as a state paper, it merits general approbation—chiefly for the candor that reigns throughout the whole communication. If we are not mistaken the tone, also, will make it relish well with the public palate. The silence, the promptitude, the steady firmness with which the rightful occupancy of the territory of West Florida has been asserted, is a brilliant feature of executive ability; and demonstrates the fallacy of the oft-repeated remark, that a republican government is incapable of effecting an object which requires at once both vigor and secrecy. The readers of the Argus will recollect that we have often hinted more energy than Mr. Madison on a proper occasion.

We are of opinion with respect to France and England, that the President has been sufficiently specific. He seems to think, and very properly, that government is pledged to a course of conduct in consequence of the repeal of the Berlin and Milan decrees, and therefore, he only directs the attention of Congress to the constitutional organ "to a removal of doubts, which may occur in the exposition, and of difficulties in the execution of the act of the first of May last.

It is pleasing to observe, in the contemplation of future contingencies, the growing friendliness of the Indians; who, in such a temper, lessen the necessity for an extension of military posts; and, in the event of war, would prove a shield to the inhabitants of our frontiers.

The subjects of education, manufactures, fortifications, and those otherwise connected with our naval and military institutions, are touched with great propriety. It is very grateful, likewise, to observe the unexpected affluence of the national treasury; a circumstance which appears to have taken the head of that department as much by surprise as it will be mortifying to the Federalists. A reduction in the negotiated loan from the United States Bank has been the pleasing consequence.

In truth, when, from this message, we take a general glance at the state of the nation, we find little to deplore, except the injustice of the English and French governments. It is difficult to say that war would have ameliorated that injustice, but it very probably would have made our own condition worse. The views of the President, however, in relation to military science are perfectly correct; for, whilst the principles of war can only be acquired by study; the practice is only to be purchased by bloody experience. To procure the latter, we must wait the moment of war; but the acquisition of the former can never be out of season.

The National Intelligencer gives us the proceedings of both Houses of Congress to Friday last inclusive; but as no business of importance was transacted on those days, they are postponed till our next, to make room for the interesting documents accompanying the President's message, and the proceedings of our state Legislature.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

THURSDAY, Dec. 6.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, with sundry documents, ordered to be laid upon the table.

Ordered, that 500 copies of the governor's letter be printed for the use of the legislature.

A resolution was offered for the appointment of a chaplain, which was disagreed to by the house.

The house agreed to proceed on the 10th instant, to the appointment of two councillors to supply the places of John Heath, Esq. deceased, and W. W. Hening, Esq. resigned.—Also, to the choice of a Senator in Congress to fill the vacancy therein, which will be occasioned by the expiration of the term of service of W. B. Giles, Esq. on the 3d day of March next.

A petition was presented and read from George Minor, of Fairfax county, complaining of the undue election and return of Richard Coleman, one of the Delegates returned to serve in this present General Assembly, from the said county.—Referred to the committee of Privileges and Elections.

A petition was presented and read from Hezekiah Ford, of Cumberland county praying to be divorced from his wife Nancy; and the question being put on the reference of the said petition, it passed in the negative.

Resolved, That the said petition be rejected.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a bill "To amend an act, entitled an act concerning public roads;" and that Messrs. Noland, Mercer, Strode, Monroe, Blackburn, Johnstone (of Prince Edward) Preston (of Rockbridge) Saunders, Otey, Randolph (of Amelia) Crutchfield, Prunty and Lewis, do prepare and bring in the same.

Petitions were received from 27 persons, on the subject of introducing and holding certain slaves in this state, and referred to the committee of courts of justice.

Petitions were received from sundry members of the Mutual Assurance Society against fire on buildings of the state of Virginia, and referred to the Committee for Courts of Justice, to which are referred other petitions on the same subject.

Petitions from the inhabitants of Monongalia and sundry other counties were received, stating certain defects in the present organization of the Chancery Courts, and praying such alterations therein as the wisdom of the Legislature may devise, and referred to the Committee for Courts of Justice, to which are referred sundry other petitions on the same subject.

A petition was presented and read from James Compton, John Dixon, Samuel Holmes and Hamilton Morrison, of Wood county, praying that the right of the Commonwealth to certain lands, in which the petitioners are interested, may be released in their favor.

Petitions were also received from Edward Skelton, George Towers, William Gillis, Mary Anne M. East, William Campbell, James Summerville and Charles Catherwood, with a prayer of a nature similar to the prayer of the foregoing petition.

A petition was also presented and read from James, otherwise called James Butler, a man of colour, praying that his present master, John Osborne, to whom he has paid the sum of one hundred and eighty pounds for his freedom, may be permitted to emancipate him, with the privilege of his remaining in this state.

Also a petition of Johnson Freeman, an emancipated man of colour, praying that he may be authorised to remain in this state.

Also a petition from Toney, Phillis and Phoebe, persons of colour, who have been emancipated by the last will of Levi Mills, praying that they may be permitted to remain in this state.

Ordered, That the said petitions be referred to the Committee for Courts of Justice, that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same with their opinion thereupon to the House.

A petition was received from sundry merchants and Traders of the town of Lynchburg, praying for an extension of the capital stock of the Bank of Virginia (with the assent of the present stockholders) and that a branch

of discount and deposit may be established in the said town of Lynchburg, which was referred to the Committee of Propositions and Grievances, to which is referred other petitions of a similar nature.

A petition was presented and read from John Seabrook, of the city of Richmond, praying the passage of a law, authorising an inspection of tobacco on his lands in the said city.

Also a petition from sundry inhabitants of the town of Waterford and its vicinity, praying the passage of an act, to incorporate a library company in the said town.

Also a petition from certain inhabitants of the borough of Norfolk, praying the passage of a law, authorising some alterations in certain streets in the said borough.

Also a petition of the inspectors of tobacco in the town of Lynchburg, praying for an augmentation of their salaries.

Also a petition from the inhabitants of Kingwood, in the county of Monongalia, praying the establishment of a town at the said place.

Ordered, That the said petitions be referred to the Committee of Propositions and Grievances, that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same with their opinion thereupon to the House.

A petition was presented and read from Samuel Coleman, of the city of Richmond, stating, that since the death of the adjutant general, in August last, the duties of that department have been performed by the petitioner, and that the quarter's salary, which would have been payable to that officer on the fourth day of the present month, may be paid to the petitioner.—Referred to the committee of claims.

FRIDAY, December 7.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Trivant.

Mr. Speaker.—The Senate have agreed to the resolution requesting the Executive to lay the journal of their proceedings before the General Assembly; also to the resolution for proceeding on this day to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth for one year; they have also agreed to the resolution to proceed on Monday the 10th inst. by joint ballot, to the choice of two members of the Privy Council or Council of State, to supply the vacancies occasioned by the death of John Heath and the resignation of William W. Hening, esquires; and to the resolution to proceed on Tuesday the 11th inst. to the choice of a Senator to represent this state in the Congress of the United States, to supply the vacancy which will be produced by the expiration of the term of service of William B. Giles, esq. on the third day of March next, with an amendment to each of the last mentioned resolutions, to which they desire the concurrence of the House of Delegates,—and then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments proposed by the Senate to the said resolutions, and the same being severally twice read, were agreed to by the House, with an amendment to the Senate's amendment to the resolution for the election of Councillors.

Ordered, That the Clerk acquaint the Senate therewith.
John Tyler, Esq. was re-elected Governor for the ensuing year, by a joint ballot of both Houses.

Petitions were received, read and referred, from the following persons, viz.

From Jeremiah Andrews, (of Norfolk) respecting a claim against "The Mutual Insurance Company against fire on Goods and Furniture in Virginia," praying certain explanations of the law establishing said society.

From John Tharp, praying for a divorce.

From E. Morris, clerk of Cabell county, praying that he may be authorised to keep the office on his own land.

From J. Lott, a man of colour, praying for a law confirming to him his full privilege of freedom, agreeably to the will of his late master.

From S. H. Lacey, praying the relinquishment of the state's right in his favor, to a tract of land, of which P. Piernet died seized.

From sundry persons, praying to be permitted to introduce and hold in this state certain slaves.

From sundry inhabitants of Franklin county, praying certain alterations in the laws regulating the inspection of tobacco.

From sundry inhabitants of Cabell county, praying that the place of holding courts in the said county may be changed.

From sundry other inhabitants of said county in opposition thereto; From James Denese, of Prince William county, stating that he is the

proprietor of two mills within four hundred yards of each other; that he applies one of them exclusively to the grinding of grist, and praying that the other which is appropriated to the purposes of a manufacturing mill, may be exempted from the operation of the law so far as it compels him to grind common custom thereat.

From William Robinson and Mary his Wife, praying that the taxes assessed upon certain lands in the county of Wood may be remitted in favor of the petitioners; and that a town as now laid out on said lands may be established by the name of Parkersburg.

From J. Ward, praying for leave to erect a bridge across Staunton river.

From the inhabitants of Darkesville, praying for a certain alteration in said town.

From sundry inhabitants of Ohio, praying for a change in the place of holding their courts,—also from sundry other inhabitants in opposition thereto.

From Amherst, on the subject of building a toll bridge at Lynchburg,—also from sundry lot holders in the town of Madison in opposition thereto.

From Thomas Gafford, stating his inability to procure subsistence in his advanced age, in consequence of a wound received at the battle of Brandywine, and praying some assistance.

Also petitions from Roswell Charter & William Croxton, praying for a divorce,—which were rejected.

Mr. Madison, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, made a favorable report which was adopted by the House, on sundry petitions, viz. from the inhabitants of E. City respecting the ferry at Hampton, &c. From the inhabitants of Fauquier, &c. for the establishment of a town to be called Paris.—From Charles Scott, respecting the erection of a dam across an arm of D. n river, &c.

A committee was appointed to examine the Treasurer's accounts.

Leave was given to bring in the following bills, viz. bills "To amend the first section of an act concerning the town of Moorefield."—To amend the act entitled an act to amend the several laws concerning slaves"—and "To regulate the conduct of Sheriffs & Attornies in certain cases."

Sales at Auction.

WILL be sold, on Thursday the 20th inst. at the late dwelling house of Maj. Joseph Scott deceased, all his household and kitchen furniture, consisting of excellent Beds and Mattresses, Tables, Chairs, Sofas, one Sideboard, one Chest of Drawers one Liquor Case, one Desk and Bookcase, a complete set of Knives and Forks, one silver Tea set, Table and Tea Spoons.

—ALSO—
A very valuable collection of books and maps—

—AMONG WHICH ARE—
Shakespeare's plays, complete, Gibbon's Roman Empire do, Gibbon's History of England do, Warton's essays, and sundry articles two tedious enumerations. The sale will commence at 9 o'clock, for all sums under \$50 cash, & for all over 50 dollars, one hundred and twenty days credit for approved endorsed negotiable notes.
BARTLETT & L.L. Auctioneers.
Richmond, Dec. 10, 1810.

To the Public.

THIS is to warn all persons from purchasing or taking an assignment of three bonds given by me to a certain John Cox of Powhatan County and State of Virginia, the said bonds are given for six hundred and twenty-six and a half acres of land, the first is for three hundred dollars, to be paid in November 1810, the other to be paid in horses, which is 476 dollars and a half, and to be paid in the autumn 1811, the other 476 1/2 dollars to be paid in horses in the fall of 1811, at each valuation, none to be valued at less than fifty dollars and in the value of which the said Cox hath practised upon me a most shameful fraud, in consequence of which I am determined not to pay the said bonds or any part of them unless I am compelled by law so to do.

GEORGE SMITH.

December 10, 1810.

TO THE PUBLIC.

THIS is to warn all persons from purchasing or taking an assignment on either of two bonds given by me to John Cox of the county of Powhatan and state of Virginia, for a very three dollars each, one payable in the spring of 1811, the other payable in the autumn of 1811, as the said bonds were given for land purchased by me of said Cox, in the face of which the said Cox practised upon me a shameful fraud; I am therefore determined not to pay any part of said bonds unless compelled by the law.

JAMES STANFORD.

November 13th, 1810.

TO RENT.

THE Upper Apartments adjoining my House, No. 307. They consist of four rooms, with a fire place in each, and large airy passages.—Also, attached to the premises, are a Kitchen and Cellar, and within a few feet of the door, is a fountain of good Spring Water from the Bloody Run, &c.

Samuel Pleasants, jr.

Oct. 8.

CHURCH'S & LEE'S

GENUINE

Patent Medicines

For Sale at the ARGUS OFFICE.